



# State of South Carolina

## Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD  
GOVERNOR

Post Office Box 12267  
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June 3, 2003

The Honorable David H. Wilkins  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
State House  
Post Office Box 11867  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House:


I am hereby returning without my approval H. 3436, R-101, an Act:

TO ESTABLISH THE DORCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION AND PROVIDE FOR ITS MEMBERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE, AND TO ABOLISH THE DORCHESTER COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION AND THE DORCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND DEVOLVE ITS POWERS AND DUTIES IN THE BOARD ESTABLISHED BY THIS ACT.

This veto is based on my belief that this bill is unconstitutional. H. 3436, R-101 proposes to abolish the office of the Dorchester County Election Commission and the Dorchester County Board of Voter Registration and create in its place the Board of Elections and Registration of Dorchester County. As such, H. 3436, R-101, affects only Dorchester County and is, therefore, clearly an act for a specific county. Such acts are in violation of Article VIII, Section 7 of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina, which provides that "[n]o laws for a specific county shall be enacted." Acts similar to H. 3436, R-101 have been struck down by the South Carolina Supreme Court as violative of Article VIII, Section 7.

For this reason, I am returning H. 3436, R-101 to you without my signature.

Sincerely,

  
Mark Sanford  
Governor